



## ARIZONA COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING

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### Commission Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

DES Director's Conference Room

1717 W Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

### **Commissioners Present:**

Michael Traylor, Co-Chair, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH); Melanie Starns (Sitting in for Co-Chair Clarence H. Carter), Department of Economic Security (DES); Brian Spicker, Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW); Charles Ryan, Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Darlene Newsom, United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM); Jenifer Thornton, City of Sierra Vista; Mark Holleran, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS); Mary Murphy (Alternate), Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF); Pat Benchik (Alternate), Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS); Sean Price (Alternate), Arizona Department of Veteran's Services (AZDVS); Ted Williams, Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation (ABC); Terri Leveton, Nova Safe Haven; Victor Hudenko, Independent Consultant; and Wade Web (Alternate), Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS).

### **Commissioners Absent:**

Clarence H. Carter, Co-Chair, Department of Economic Security (DES); Colonel Joey Strickland, Arizona Department of Veteran's Services (ADVS); David Sherman, The Salvation Army, White Mountain Outpost; Tammy Paz-Combs, GOCYF and Will Humble, ADHS.

### **Staff Present:**

Lynn Larson, DES; Raoul Sada, DES; Donna Bleyle, DES; Danelle Valenzuela, ADHS; Denise Stravia, ADC; Karia L. Basta, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH); Margaret Kilman, DES; Mary Mobile, ADC and Priscilla Cruz, DES (via teleconference).

### **Guests Present:**

Barbara Montrose, Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (CPSA); Brande Mead, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG); David Roun, Tucson Pima Collaboration to end Homelessness (TPCH); Pam Mosley, TPCH; Patti Caldwell, Our Family Services and Susanna Rodriguez, TPCH.

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

Co-Chair Traylor called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Request for Proposal (RFP) Announcement:**

An announcement was issued by Melanie Starns concerning the two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) posted on Procure AZ concerning Homelessness services, 1) Pima and Maricopa Counties and 2) Balance of State. As these RFPs are in an open and current competition status, DES staff are not able to answer any questions. Ms. Starns requested that all questions pertaining to these two RFPs be put forth to the Office of Procurement. Ms. Starns also announced that there will be a pre-offer conference scheduled for the Balance of State RFP on Thursday, March 21, 2013 at the Arizona Transportation Auditorium at 10:00 a.m.

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

Co-Chair Traylor called for a motion to approve the Tuesday, January 15, 2013 meeting minutes. The motion was approved and passed by Commissioners in attendance. Jenifer Thornton abstained as she was not present at the January 15, 2013 meeting.

### **Arizona Department of Corrections Presentation:**

Director Ryan gave a presentation to bring the Commission up-to-date on the Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC) new initiatives to re-integrate released inmates back into the community. He then went on to discuss how, out of the 40,000 inmates in ADC, 88 percent are U.S. Citizens and 12 percent are criminal aliens. He stated, due to an agreement with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), who are deporting three percent of the criminal aliens, the criminal alien numbers have lowered. He spoke of how homelessness is one of the top eight concerns in the prison system with 14 percent of the released prisoners being homeless. He then discussed his one billion dollar budget for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2012 and how, due to budget cuts, he has had to close three corrections facilities. He noted that his Tucson pilot facility is doing well and he expressed the need for a facility in the Phoenix area. He concluded by requesting that the committee spread the word for a need of a facility in Maricopa County.

### **Continuum of Care Presentations (TPCH, Balance of State and MAG):**

David Roun, Chair Person, Barbara Montrose, and Pamela Mosley for Tucson Pima Collaboration to end Homelessness (TPCH) continuum of care gave a presentation on their efforts to end homelessness. David Roun started out by stating how continuums have to be compliant with the HEARTH Act and how TPCH is aligning its policies in applying for funds. TPCH is made up of about twenty different volunteer agencies which utilize various committees in order to create a community collaborative that allows the communities to have more of an input and remain active within their own regions. TPCH also operates within the federal HUD guidelines. TPCH is trying to increase awareness of the homelessness community by actively collaborating with leadership and business. TPCH is also actively trying to focus on employment upon intake in order to assist with permanent housing. TPCH's goal is to create a statewide database of affordable and safe housing for those who are homeless, with collaboration between State, County and local agencies. In closing TPCH requested that ADOH apply for the HUD Eleven Project when it becomes available for application again.

Karia L. Basta, Special Needs Administrator from the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) also gave a presentation on the Balance of State continuum of care and their efforts to end homelessness. She began by stating how the HEARTH Act was formerly known as McKinney Vento (which passed in 1987) and was reauthorized as the HEARTH Act in May of 2009, with HUD introducing the continuum of care in 1994. The Balance of State continuum of care was initiated in 1996 and was originally named the Rural Continuum of Care and in 2010 was renamed the Balance of State. The Balance of State continuum includes 13 counties with very different zones, terrains, weather, economies and cultures which offer a challenge in getting all 13 counties to agree. Stating how in many areas of the state there are still 'frontier territories' which are rural and very isolated. All 13 counties have agreed to apply for funding through the presence of a statewide advocate leading the process. They are to look to the state as it has a better capacity to apply for funding than the smaller agencies and the state has a better chance of acquiring more funding than the smaller agencies. She stated how all three continuums are really making great efforts to aid homelessness and to generate

more rapid rehousing. In conclusion she stated that there needs to be written policies and procedures put into place so that one personality does not dominate the process. She noted the importance of keeping a system in place that anyone can pick up, which will allow the system to keep functioning as players change.

Due to time constraints it was requested by the Commission that Brande Mead from Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) continuum of care return to the next scheduled meeting to present her presentation. She graciously agreed to return.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Brande Mead to present at next scheduled meeting.

**Next Meeting:**

The next ACHH meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2013.

**Adjourn:**

Co-Chair Traylor called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved and passed by the commissioners in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.